

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-03 NSC-05 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 A-01 SCSE-00 SCA-01 /049 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/NC/C:DCOX:JR

APPROVED BY S/CCT:ROBERT FEAREY

ARA/NC:FJDEVINE

ARAPAF:PNIEBURG (PHONE)

S/PRS:RFUNSETH (PHONE)

----- 120106

O 072024Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 186880

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: CASC SOCI CO

SUBJECT:KIDNAPPING OF SEARS ROEBUCK EXECUTIVE DONALD E.  
COOPER - PRESS GUIDANCE

REF: BOGOTA 7457 AND PREVIOUS

1. FOLLOWING IS GUIDANCE PREPARED ON "IF ASKED" BASIS FOR  
DEPARTMENT'S AUGUST 7 NOON PRESS BRIEFING. NO QUESTIONS RE  
KIDNAPPING AROSE.

2. QUOTE: Q: WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE KIDNAPPING OF  
THE SEARS ROEBUCK EXECUTIVE IN COLOMBIA? A: MR. COOPER WAS  
KIDNAPPED FROM HIS HOME BY A GROUP OF SIX UNKNOWN  
ABDUCTORS AT ABOUT 6:15 P.M. ON AUGUST 5. MR. COOPER IS  
VICE PRESIDENT FOR MERCHANDIZING, SEARS ROEBUCK AND COMPANY,  
BOGOTA. MR. COOPER'S FAMILY WAS IN THE UNITED STATES AT THE  
TIME OF THE KIDNAPPING AND IS STILL HERE. THE KIDNAP  
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GROUP WAS REPORTED BY THE COOPER'S CHAUFFEUR AND MAID, WHO  
WERE BOUND ALONG WITH COOPER BUT NOT TAKEN AWAY IN THE  
KIDNAP CAR, TO BE PURPOSEFUL AND EFFICIENT. ONE SHOT WAS  
FIRED DURING THE KIDNAPPING BUT NO ONE WAS HURT.

3. Q: HAS THERE BEEN A RANSOM DEMAND? A: THE MOST RECENT NEWS WE HAVE INDICATES NO RECEIPT OF ANY RANSOM DEMAND.

4. Q: IS THIS A POLITICAL KIDNAPPING? A: WE HAVE AS YET NO INDICATION THAT THIS IS THE CASE, AND IT IS NOT HELPFUL TO SPECULATE.

5. Q: HOW IS MR. COOPER'S FAMILY BEARING UP? A: THEY ARE IN THE UNITED STATES AND WERE ALREADY GONE FROM BOGOTA WHEN THE KIDNAPPING TOOK PLACE. SEARS ROEBUCK HAS INFORMED US THAT IT IS KEEPING THE FAMILY INFORMED.

6. Q: WHAT IS SEARS ROEBUCK DOING ABOUT THE CASE? A: I SUGGEST YOU DIRECT THAT QUESTION TO THE COMPANY.

7. Q: WHAT IS THE U.S. DOING ABOUT IT? A: WE, OF COURSE, REGRET AND DEPLORE THE KIDNAPPING, AND ARE IN CLOSE TOUCH REGARDING IT WITH THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT, WHICH OF COURSE BEARS PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY IN THE CASE. WE ARE ALSO IN TOUCH WITH SEARS ROEBUCK IN BOGOTA AND HERE, AND HAVE ASSURED THEM OF OUR DESIRE TO BE OF ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE. END QUOTE. KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 26 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 07 AUG 1975  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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